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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT

20 March 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Oxnard - 500 Students Affected in Norovirus Outbreak

(U) More than 500 students at more than half a dozen elementary and middle schools in Oxnard have been diagnosed with the norovirus according to Ventura County Public Health officials. Norovirus is a highly contagious virus that can spread through food, contact with people and contaminated surfaces. It causes nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain, which could last one to three days. The district is carefully following health department guidelines to prevent more students from getting sick and health officials report that the number of new cases is declining. There have been no reports of any children requiring hospitalization.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, ABC7

(U) Vallejo – Increase in Freeway Shootings Due to Gang Activity

(U) Most of the shootings happening on Bay Area freeways recently have been attributed to gangs targeting each other, according to California Highway Patrol officials. There have been 19 freeway shootings since January while 2016 saw 55 shootings and 2015 saw 37. Many of the shootings have occurred in the Contra Costa area. A task force, made up of not only CHP officers but also the FBI and Contra Costa District Attorney's Office, has been created to combat the issue, as well as increased patrols and added officers. The task force hopes to implement a network of wireless cameras, license plate readers, and shot detectors to help investigate and prevent the shootings.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, East Bay Times

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia - Intruder arrested at White House after Claiming to Have Bomb

(U) Washington – On 18 March, the Secret Service detained a man after he drove his car to a checkpoint near the White House and claimed that he had a bomb, according to police. The intruder stopped his car at the White House checkpoint just after 11pm before getting out of the car to claim there was a bomb in the trunk. The man was charged with making false bomb threats and the unauthorized use of a vehicle, which had been reported stolen. This is the third time an intruder has been apprehended on the White House grounds this month.

SOURCE: 19 March 2017, NY Times

(U) Louisiana – Sheriff's Deputy Shot, Killed On-Duty

(U) Baton Rouge – East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office deputy Shawn T. Anderson was shot while on-duty Saturday, 18 March. He and another deputy were investigating an incident at a local strip mall when the shooting occurred. A suspect in the shooting was taken to the hospital as well, after being shot and injured. The suspect's name has not been released and Louisiana State Police are investigating the incident. A department spokesperson stated that the officers were not responding to a call for service when the shooting occurred.

SOURCE: 19 March 2017, Associated Press

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(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Canada – Border Authorities Detaining Record Number of Mexican Immigrants

(U) Ottawa – The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) said it detained 444 Mexican nationals between January 1 and March 8, compared with 410 for all of 2016, 351 for 2015, and 399 for 2014. The spike comes immediately after Canada's federal government lifted its visa requirement for Mexican citizens in December. Canada allows Mexican citizens to come into the country without a visa, requiring only an Electronic Travel Authorization, which is easily obtained online. However, the CBSA can detain foreign nationals if it is believed they pose a danger to the public, if their identity is unclear or if they are deemed unlikely to appear for removal or for a proceeding. Canada's Immigration and Refugee department is monitoring the situation.

SOURCE: 18 March 2017, Reuters

(U) France – Shooting at Paris Orly Airport

(U) Paris – A suspected Islamic extremist was killed after attacking a French soldier on 18 March. The man, identified as Ziyed Ben Belgacem, reportedly shouted that he wanted to kill and die for Allah before grabbing the soldier and wrestling away her assault rifle. Belgacem was first stopped by police earlier in the day for driving infractions during which he injured an officer by shooting him in the face with a pellet gun. He then fled to a bar and opened fire once more, before stealing a car and going to the airport. Tests confirm that Belgacem took cocaine, smoked cannabis, and drank alcohol before his death. Belgacem was the only one fatally injured. The officer who was shot by the pellet gun received only minor injuries.

SOURCE: 20 March 2017, Independent/Chicago Tribune

(U) North Korea – Country Tests Rocket Engine as US Secretary of State Visits China

(U) Pyongyang – North Korea tested a rocket engine over the weekend, as the US Secretary of State was in Beijing to discuss diplomacy and shared interests after earlier warning that the military "option is on the table" to stop North Korea's nuclear program. The tested rocket will reportedly allow North Korea world-level satellite delivery capabilities. The tests come just a few months after the government's announcement that North Korea is continuing development of nuclear missiles capable of reaching the US mainland.

SOURCE: 19 March 2017, USA Today

(U) Spain – Eta Militant Group to Disarm Fully

(U) Madrid – The militant group ETA has agreed to disarm fully by April 8 after talks with the Spanish government. ETA declared a ceasefire in 2011, but did not surrender its weapons. The agreement comes after more than 40 years of fighting, resulting in over 800 deaths. The agreement has not been formally announced yet, though tweets by the interior minister indicate that ETA will not receive anything in exchange for the disarmament.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, BBC

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) California – Four Chinese Citizens Discovered in Car Trunk at US Border

(U) San Diego – A US citizen faces smuggling charges after US Customs and Border Patrol agents discovered four Chinese citizens in the trunk of his car at the San Ysidro port of entry. Three women and one man are being held pending removal hearings, as none were legally allowed to enter the US. The

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stowaways were discovered after a canine team dog alerted officers. The driver is expected to face felony charges.

SOURCE: 17 March 2017, ABC 10

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